## **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

## **News Release**

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Online payments now accepted for county sewer bills

LĪHU'E – As a part of their continuing effort to increase efficiency and improve access to government services, county officials are poised to launch tomorrow a new service that will allow Kaua'i residents to pay their sewer bills online.

This change marks the first time that bill-paying for county services can be handled on a computer.

"Thousands of people can now enjoy the ease and convenience of paying their bi-monthly sewer bills over the Internet from their home or office," said Mayor Bryan J. Baptiste. "This project has been in the works for a while, and I'd like to recognize our finance team for their hard work in developing the new system."

Anyone who receives sewer payment notices in the mail can instantly access the new system and pay his or her bill online by going to www.kauai.gov/sp.

After logging on to the county website, the next step is to input one's account number, which is printed on the bill. The user will then have a choice of paying by credit card or from his or her checking account. If the user provides his email address, he will receive an electronic receipt for the transaction.

"The beauty is that you now have more choices when it comes to paying your sewer bill, much like with commercial businesses," said Michael Tresler, director of finance. "Most of you pay by mailing a check, or going to a county office to pay.

"Now you have another option," noted Tresler. "You can simply click to our website

and pay online with your credit card or by allowing us to charge your bank account. Savings

include your time, car travel and reduced personal risk, as well as the price of a postage

stamp."

The mayor pointed out that the new bill-paying option is a win-win situation for

the public and for county government.

He said, "If enough people use the online payment service, county personnel will

have to do less manual processing of mail, paper checks and data. This is why I've

asked that the public not be charged a fee to utilize this service."

The launch of the online sewer bill payment system was timed to coincide with

the mailing of April's sewer bills.

To encourage use of the new system, county sewer subscribers will receive a

light green card a few days after their bill arrives to remind them about the new bill

paying option.

This addition of online services for sewer payments is the first of a number of

online bill-paying services scheduled to be offered soon. By early next year, online

services for both motor vehicle registration and real property taxes will also be available,

as well as over-the-counter credit card facilities.

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